

CONFERENCE 1980



THE ASSOCIATION OF KANSAS THEATRE PRESENTS

The Sixth Annual KANSAS THEATRE CONFERENCE

Holiday Inn Plaza, Wichita • February 29, March 1, 2, 1980

An Invitation and a Welcome:

It's a pleasure to welcome you to the 6th Annual Conference of the Association of Kansas Theatre. This year's slate of events reflects sustained growth and excellence not only for the conference, but for AKT and its services in general.

*The State Thespians are holding their conference in conjunction with AKT for the second consecutive year giving a healthy boost in participation by secondary students and educators. The president-elect of the American Theatre Association—continuing a six-year tradition—will be among our special guests, this office being currently held by David Gooder. Another Festival of Theatre for Young Audiences is part of the conference, and Wichita State University Theatre will present a special performance of *Kennedy's Children* by playwright Robert Patrick, who returns to us this year to talk about this highly successful and much produced play.*

A new feature of the 1980 conference will be the introduction of the Kansas Theatre Hall of Fame, created to recognize those who over the years have made significant contributions to the growth and quality of theatre in Kansas. On hand to help initiate this new awards program will be Kansas' First Lady, Ramona Carlin.

Add to all this the excellence of AKT's workshops and discussion leaders, and you'll surely want to add yourself and your fellow theatre enthusiasts.

Please join us!

Ronald Q. Frederickson, President
Association of Kansas Theatre

Joyce Cavarozzi, President-elect and
Conference Program Chairperson

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CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

Thursday, February 29

7:00-10:00 High School Productions

Kansas State High School Thespian Troupes will perform various selections, from original scripts to well known plays, for the public.

Friday, March 1

8:00-5:00 Registration

Lobby, KIVA LEVEL, Holiday Inn Plaza

8:00-1:00 Mini-Festival, Theatre for Young People

GOLD ROOM and RIVIERA ROOM

Performances will include Kansas University Theatre for Young People, Emporia State University, Hutchinson Repertory Company, and Seem-To-Be-Players. Respondants will provide feedback for the productions.

1:00-2:30 Choreography in Theatre

GOLD ROOM

Chifra Holt, Director, Dance Division: Artistic Director Mid-America Dance Company, Wichita State University. A demonstration/participation workshop showing various kinds of staging for the dance in musicals.

1:00-2:30 Taking a Show On The Road

TERRACE ROOM

Jeffery Corrick, Artistic Director, Hutchinson Repertory Company, will take a comprehensive look at the specialized technical difficulty of touring a production.

1:00-2:30 Religion In Theatre

GALLERY ROOM

Norman J. Fedder, Kansas State University, Director of Religion and Theatre Program, ATA, and Bill Watt, Kansas State University student. Discussion of activities nationwide, and a discussion/demonstration of religion and theatre.

2:30-4:00 The Older Americans Act

GOLD ROOM

Jerry Snider and the Senior Acting Troupe of the Barn Players, Shawnee Mission, will present a one act play dealing with the problems of aging, followed by a discussion.

2:30-4:00 Scenography: When One Designer Does It All

GALLERY ROOM

*Gregory Hill, Design Faculty, University of Kansas
Through slides and discussion, Mr Hill will explore the problems and joys of one person coordinating the visual aspects of a production.*

2:30-4:00 Robert Patrick: A Pro Looks At Actors

RIVIERA ROOM

Award Winning Playwright Robert Patrick will spend time working with actors and discussing problems encountered in acting professionally. Emphasis will be on new scripts.

4:00-5:30 Organizing the One Person Program

GALLERY ROOM

*Moderator: Piet Knetsch, Bethany College
Panel: Larry Sadowski, Pratt Community College; Rick Tyler McPherson College; Lois Griffing, Wichita Northwest High School. The panel will discuss ways and means of coping with the unique problem of a small theatre program.*

4:00-5:30 Playwriting for Children's Theatre

TERRACE ROOM

*Aurand Harris, playwright
A talk and discussion dealing with subject matter in writing for children in today's world.*

4:00-6:00 Mime Workshop

GOLD ROOM

*Steve Harris, Mimewock, Kansas City
Professional mimist Steve Harris will hold a participation workshop in the basics of mime.*

6:00-6:30 Thespian Officer Candidates Meeting

GALLERY ROOM

6:00-6:30 Childrens Theatre Division Meeting

DIRECTORS ROOM

6:00-7:30 Dinner Break

8:00 KENNEDY'S CHILDREN

*WILNER AUDITORIUM Wichita State University
A Production of the prize winning play, followed by a question and answer session with the cast and playwright Robert Patrick. Tickets may be ordered on the registration form, or at the registration desk for \$2.50. This is a benefit for AKT*

Saturday, March 1

8:00-4:00 Registration

Lobby KIVA LEVEL, Holiday Inn Plaza

9:00-10:30 Section 504: Arts and the Handicapped—What's Going On?

TERRACE ROOM

Mary Browne, KAC's coordinator of education regarding the 504 regulations, will fill us in on a history of "mainstreaming" the handicapped and give us tips on how our organizations can comply with the 1973 requirements.

9:00-10:30 Makeup Fantasies

GOLD ROOM

*Carol Wright Krause, Emporia State University
The demonstration/workshops will explore unconventional methods and materials useful in makeup design for non-realistic plays.*

9:00-10:30 Using Improvisational Techniques in Directing

RIVIERA ROOM

*Jerry Snider, Shawnee Mission South
This demonstration session will present non-traditional rehearsal techniques for full length stage productions.*

9:00-12:00 and 1:00-4:00 So You're On a Board/Committee—Now What?

GALLERY ROOM

Bobby Patton, Chairman of the University of Kansas Speech and Drama Department, and Twink Lynch, AKT's Executive Director, will lead the participants through some theory about groups (power issues, motivation, roles people play, decision making in groups), and provide some practical experience in working with others to achieve organizational goals. Three hours in the morning will deal with power issues and roles; three hours in the afternoon will deal with decision-making and motivation.

10:30-12:00 Audition Techniques for Actors and Directors

RIVIERA ROOM

*John Holly, Producing Director Music Theatre of Wichita.
A participation/demonstration workshop focusing on controlling stage fright, reading cold, resumes, dressing properly, and other aspects of auditioning.*

10:30-12:00 Stage Movement

GOLD ROOM

Marilyn DuBrisk, *Theatre Faculty, Wichita State University; Member, Imperial Society of Teachers of Dance, London*

The demonstration/participation workshops will focus on stage movement for the actor with emphasis on different approaches and experiments in movement to help the actor relax and control his/her body.

12:00-1:00 Lunch Break

1:00-2:30 An Original Script: Should We or Shouldn't We?

TERRACE ROOM

Mary Doveton, *Lawrence Community Theatre*

A discussion among community theatre personnel and guest playwrights about finding the new play, producing it, and surviving the whole experience.

1:00-2:30 Issues for Secondary Schools

DIRECTORS ROOM

Ginny Higgins, *Emporia State University Speech Faculty*, and Dr. Bronson, *Principal, Campus High School* will discuss problems and goals for the secondary theatre.

1:00-2:30 Graphics for the Theatre

RIVIERA ROOM

George Charlsen, *Executive Art Director, Communication Arts Associates, Inc.*

Mr. Charlsen, designer of theatre posters for twenty years, will discuss and demonstrate organizing the elements for a poster and adapting it to other forms of publicity. He will demonstrate banner and billboard painting.

1:00-3:00 Japanese Style In The Western Theatre

GOLD ROOM

Andrew Tsubaki, *Director International Theatre Studies, University of Kansas*

Through demonstration, participation and discussion, Dr. Tsubaki will illustrate ways to apply Japanese performance techniques to Western theatre forms.

1:00-4:00 So You're On a Board/Committee—Now What?

GALLERY ROOM

Continuation of the leadership training workshop with Bobby Patton and Twink Lynch

1:00-5:00 Professional Auditions

CENTURY II ROOM 201

Auditionees should sign up for a time slot starting at 12:00. Call-backs will be on Sunday afternoon.

2:30-4:00 Directing the Inexperienced Actor

PALM ROOM

Moderator: Gina Austin, *Wichita West High School*

Panel: Charles Kephart, *Director Salina Community Theatre*; Martha Herrick, *Topeka High School*

A discussion of approaches to working with actors who have not had a great deal of stage experience.

2:30-4:00 Presentation of Scholarly Works

DIRECTORS ROOM

Moderator: Bill Kuhlke, *University of Kansas*

Students will present original research materials in diverse areas of theatre.

2:30-4:00 Problems of a Multi-Set Show

TERRACE ROOM

Rick Tyler, *McPherson College* and John Hunter, *Technical Director and Designer, Washburn University*

A slide lecture presentation concerning multi-type sets on different stages with limited space and budgets.

2:30-4:00 The Art of the Theatre

RIVIERA ROOM

Robert Patrick, *Award Winning Playwright* and Dick Welsbacher, *Director of Theatre, Wichita State University*

A friendly dialogue on the art of theatre; what is it and where is it?

3:00-5:00 Stage Combat

GOLD ROOM

Richard Nichols, *Associate Professor of Theatre, University of Nebraska, Lincoln*; Head, *ATA Stage Movement Project*

A demonstration/participation workshop in stage fight choreography including slaps, punches, kicks, etc.

4:00-5:30 Readers Theatre

RIVIERA ROOM

Ron Frederickson and Carol Wright Krause, *Emporia State University*,

A discussion/demonstration of the group performance of "non-dramatic text" including script adaption and staging techniques.

4:00-5:30 Using Non-Theatre Spaces, or How In Heaven's Name Can We Do A Play In Here?

GALLERY ROOM
David Gooder, Former ACTA President, has done much research on this subject, and will share ideas on transforming non-theatre spaces into spaces where theatre is possible.

4:00-5:30 Starting A Thespian Troupe

TERRACE ROOM
Lesley Coats, Kansas State Thespian Director, will discuss the procedure for forming a school Thespian Troupe. A question and answer session will be included.

6:30 Dinner with David Gooder

RIVIERA ROOM
David Gooder, President-elect of the American Theatre Association will be the guest speaker, The AKT is initiating The Kansas Theatre Hall of Fame, and we are hoping to have a very special guest artist for a very special award.

8:30 Divisional Meetings

<i>University and College</i>	GOLD ROOM
<i>Community Theatre</i>	GALLERY
<i>Professional Theatre</i>	DIRECTORS ROOM
<i>Secondary Schools</i>	PALM ROOM
<i>Thespian Troupes</i>	TERRACE ROOM

Twink Lynch, AKT Executive Director, will visit with each division during their meetings. Bob Gard, Professor of Theatre with the University of Wisconsin Extension, will be the speical guest of the Community Theatre Division.

10:30 After Glow

RIVIERA ROOM
A Late night get-together with wine and cheese. Tickets may be ordered on the registration form for \$2.00, or purchased at the registration desk for \$3.00.

Sunday, March 2_____

9:00 AKT Business Meeting

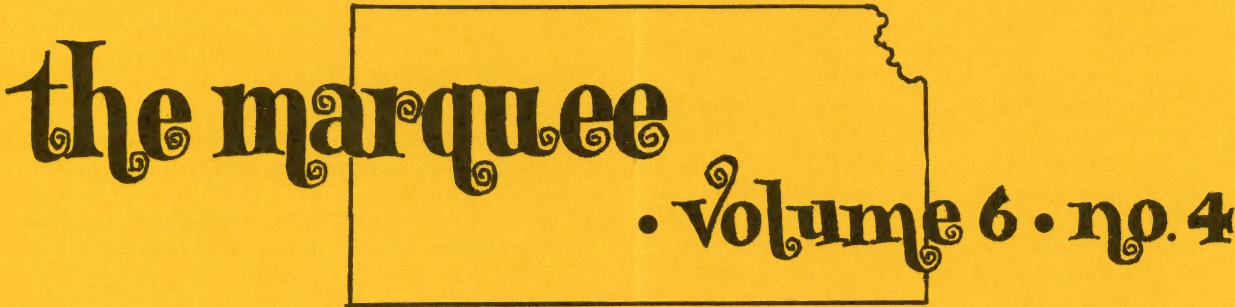
Evaluation Session: What Do We Think We Have and Haven't Done?
The Kansas Theatre Hall of Fame Awards
Fireside Chat: It is still tentative, but we think we have a very special treat for all of you—a chance to hear a very famous theatre person.
RIVIERA ROOM
A Continental Breakfast will be available

12:30 Professional Auditions-Call Backs

CENTURY II

12:30-3:00 College Auditions

Piet Knetsch, University and College Chairperson, and Nadine Charlsen, Secondary School Chairperson, Coordinators
This is an opportunity for high school seniors to audition for and talk with the various colleges in the state. Students should register for audition time at the convention registration desk.



NEWSLETTER OF THE ASSOCIATION OF KANSAS THEATRE

ABOUT OUR HONORED GUESTS

ROBERT GARD, is a native of Iola, and Professor of Theatre Arts, University of Wisconsin Extension at Madison, and Director of the Unit of Arts Development. He founded the Wisconsin Idea Theatre in 1945. He has written GRASSROOTS THEATRE, COMMUNITY THEATRE: IDEA AND ACHIEVEMENT (with Gertrude Burley), and THEATRE IN AMERICA: APPRAISAL AND CHALLENGE (with Marston Balch and Pauline Temkin.) He was awarded the Gold Medal of Honor from the Finnish National Theatre. He has received numerous awards from ACTA for his long standing contribution to community theatre growth and development in the United States.

DAVID GOODER, President-Elect, ATA, is a graduate of Harvard College and Northwestern Law School, has a law practice in Chicago and is active in bar association activities. He has been an actor, building fund Chairman and Board Chairman of Western Springs Theatre, ACTA President and on the Illinois Arts Council.

AURAND HARRIS, is the foremost American playwright for children. His newest play, THE ARKANSAS BEAR, will premier in Austin, Texas in March and one of his recent plays, A TOBY SHOW, was written under the auspices of the The National Endowment for the Arts through a Creative Writing Fellowship, the first such fellowship to be awarded for Children's Theatre.

RICHARD NICHOLS, Associate Professor of Theatre, University of Nebraska, Lincoln, and Head, ATA Stage Movement Project, is a nationally recognized leader in stage movement. He is a graduate of Michigan State University, Ohio University and the University of Washington and has studied in Japan. He has numerous workshops throughout the country, and been active in ACTF.

ROBERT PATRICK, Playwright, has worked from Cafe La Mama on the East Coast to the Seattle Repertory Theatre on the West Coast, has written the award winning KENNEDY'S CHILDREN, and is one of the most active members of the Off-Off Broadway Theatre in New York. He writes regularly for DRAMATICS magazine and STAGES. He has been a strong supporter of secondary and college theatre.

AND SPECIAL GUEST, Ramona Carlin, First Lady of Kansas